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## **DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS**

### **Minutes of the Regular Detroit Board of Police Commissioners Meeting Thursday, August 7, 2008**

The meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners was held on Thursday, August 7, 2008, at 3:00 p.m., at Police Headquarters, 1300 Beaubien, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

##### **Board Members Present**

Jim Holley  
Ronald L. Griffin  
Mohamed Okdie **(ABS)**  
Erminia Ramirez  
Willie Hampton **(ABS)**

##### **Department Personnel Present**

AC Ralph Godbee  
2<sup>nd</sup> DC James Tate  
Cmdr. Gail Wilson-Turner  
Lt. Donna Jarvis  
Lt. Charles Wilson  
Lt. Timothy Leach  
Sgt. Brian Harris  
Sgt. Romel Alexander  
PO Sophia Nelms  
PO Heshimu Green

##### **Board Staff Present**

Dante' L. Goss, Executive Director  
Celia Banks Washington, Attorney/Supervising Inv.  
Arnold Sheard, Chief Investigator  
Lawana Ducker, Personnel Director **(ABS)**  
P.O. Kent Cooper **(ABS)**

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Edward Moore  
Edith Lee Payne  
Lawanda Hail-Ruffin  
Tom Stidham  
Phyllis Hernandez

**RECORDERS**

PO Terence Bell  
Robert Brown

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Chairperson Ramirez** called the meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners to order at 3:35 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- **Thursday, August 7, 2008**

**MOTION:** **Comm. Holley** made the motion to approve the Agenda.

**SECOND:** **Comm. Griffin** seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- **Thursday, July 31, 2008**

**MOTION:** **Comm. Holley** made the motion to approve the Minutes.

**SECOND:** **Comm. Griffin** seconded the motion.

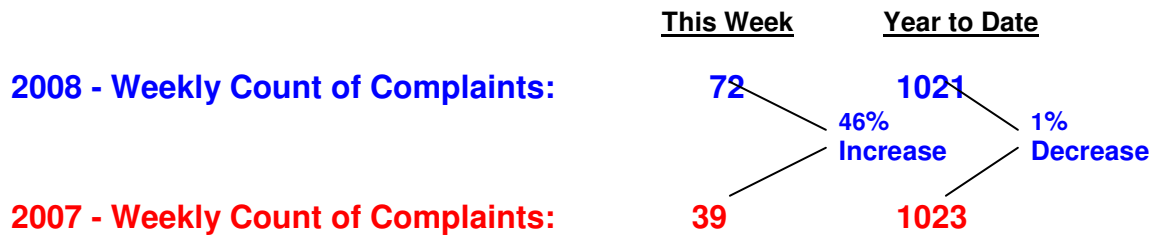
**VOTE:** All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

#### 4. BOPC OFFICER'S REPORT

##### 1. CHAIRPERSON

##### 2. SECRETARY REPORT

#### CITIZEN COMPLAINTS RECEIVED



- The Office of the Chief Investigator has a total of **1,150** active investigations, of which **823** of those are for 2008.

#### TOTAL WEEKLY ALLEGATIONS & COMMAND

Total	COMMAND	ALLEGATIONS									Total
CCR	W/E 08/07/08	Arrest	Demeanor	Force	Harassment	Entry	Procedure	Property	Search	Service	Allegations
5	CENTRAL		1	2	1					1	5
7	COMMUNICATIONS		3				4			1	8
6	EASTERN	1	5	2			4	1			13
1	EVIDENCE		1				1				2
1	HOMICIDE		1								1
1	IDENTIFICATION		1				1			1	3
1	NARCOTICS		1				1				2
5	NORTHEASTERN		3				2			1	6
6	NORTHWESTERN		3		1		5				9
1	RECORDS/IDENT		1				1				2
10	SOUTHWESTERN	1	2	1	1		7	1	1	3	17
1	TACTICAL		1								1
20	Unknown Command		8	2	1		13			3	27
2	VIOLENT CRIMES		1				2				3
5	WESTERN		4				1			2	7
72		2	36	7	4		42	2	1	12	106

## 5. PRESENTATION/REPORT-CHIEF OF POLICE

August 7, 2008

Volume 4, Issue 32

# *Detroit Police Department*

## *Report to the Board of Police Commissioners*



### ***“Building a Safer Detroit Through Community Partnerships”***

*The Detroit Police Department is committed to uphold its mission to provide a safe environment for our residents and businesses. This effort is not possible without the joint commitment of the community and the Police Department. We appreciate and value the role our citizens have played in helping us to take the guns and drugs off the streets of the city of Detroit.*

### **SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS**

#### **Domestic Violence**

On August 1st, officers of the Northwestern District responded to the 11000 block of Evergreen on a “Stabbing” and arrested a subject. Subsequent to the investigation conducted by members of Domestic Violence, the subject was charged with “Assault with Intent to Commit Great Bodily Harm,” “Felony Assault”, “Domestic Violence,” and “Habitual 2nd.

#### **Special Points of Interest:**

##### **• Next meeting:**

Thursday, August 14, 2008

@ 6:30 P.M.

**St. Moran Hall  
11466 Kercheval  
Detroit, Michigan 48214**

#### **Inside this issue:**

Narcotics/Gang Enforcement 1

Domestic violence 1

Southwestern District 2

Western District 2

Investigative Operations 2

Central District 2

Northwestern District 2

## **Engaging the Community**

### **ATTENTION**

Citizens wishing to make a police report may do so at the District stations in the city of Detroit. Citizens may also utilize the following District Sub-Stations to make reports.

		<u>Location</u>	<u>Hours of Operation</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
Investigative Operations	2	1300 Beaubien	24 Hours	596-5100
		2151 E. Jefferson	24 Hours	596-6400
Central District	2	7737 Kercheval	7 a.m. to 3 p.m.	628-2121
		19810 Grand River	10 a.m. to 3 p.m.	935-5322
Northwestern District	2	13530 Lesure	8 a.m. to 11 p.m.	596-5300
		12000 Livernois	24 Hours	237-2555
		20 Atwater	24 Hours	237-2850

August 7, 2008

## ***Police / Community Intervention***

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### **Southwestern District**

On August 1st, officers of the Southwestern District received information on a pattern of robberies in the area being committed by a suspect armed with a handgun. While on patrol in the area of Florida and McGraw, they observed a subject fitting the description. Due to the officers' investigation, the subject was arrested without incident and charged with "Carrying a Concealed Weapon," and "Robbery Armed." A handgun was confiscated.



### **Western District**

On August 2nd, officers of the Western District were approached by a complainant in the 19000 block of Canterbury, who witnessed a suspect attempt to break into their home. Due to the officers' quick response, the subject was arrested and charged with "Home Invasion," and "Habitual 2nd."



### **Central District**

On August 2nd, officers of the Central District responded to the 1000 block of West Grand Boulevard on a "Recorded Alarm." Subsequent to their investigation, a subject was arrested and charged with "Breaking & Entering a Building," "Larceny in Building," and "Habitual 4th."



### **Northwestern District**

On August 1st, officers of the Northwestern District B & E Task Force, while on patrol, assisted with a run in the area of Pembroke and Kentfield on a "Person Stripping Vehicles." Subsequent to the officers' investigation, three subjects were arrested and charged with "Larceny from Auto."

**AC Godbee** commended the men and women in blue for what they do on a daily basis.

**Comm. Ramirez** asked is the department ready for the Grand Prix.

**AC Godbee** stated yes. ma'am.

**Comm. Ramirez** asked how the National Night Out event do.

**AC Godbee** stated it went well, but he doesn't know what District is the winner and he will find out.

**Comm. Ramirez** asked how is the winner picked.

**AC Godbee** stated the district is judged by the number of people who shows up, the number of homes with porch light on and the creativity.

He stated on a sadly note a PO Jeffery Coon was killed in a motorcycle accident.

**Comm. Ramirez** asked for a moment of silence.

**A moment of silence.**

## **6. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Comm. Ramirez** stated on August 21, 2008 the Board will be having a closed session to discuss committee of the whole structure and the By-Laws.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

**Comm. Holley** stated he read that there was a community meeting held by the Chief regarding shooting by DPD officers. He stated that the Board Community Meetings would have been a good venue for this, because the board wants to be involved.

**AC Godbee** stated they didn't try to exclude this board, but sometimes the Chief needs to have the ability to reach out to the community on her terms. He stated he will take the board concerns back to the Chief.

**Comm. Ramirez** stated as the oversight they are not asking to be involved in every little detail, but any huge forum they would like to be involved.

**AC Godbee** stated he respects that, but it is very difficult to or unreasonable because of the number of forums the Chief is having.

**Comm. Holley** stated even if you don't want the board to be involved given them the courtesy to say no.

**AC Godbee** stated the Chief does so much to touch the community and doesn't want to raise the community expectation when the board isn't involved.

**Comm. Griffin** stated the board agrees, he stated the reason he accept this seat on the board because he believes the community needs to be overwhelm by this board and the department.

## **8. OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

## **9. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING**

Thursday August 14, 2008, @ 6:30 p.m.  
Eastern District  
St. Moran Hall  
11466 Kercheval  
Detroit, MI 48214

**Comm. Ramirez** stated tomorrow is her birthday and everyone is invited.

## **10. ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE**

**L. Griffin** stated "Women for Excellent" is having a back to school bash for Pulaski Elementary /Middle School located at 19725 Strasburg, August 21, 2008 from 10:00am to 2:00 pm. They are giving the kids school supplies and accepting donations.

**Comm. Griffin** stated The Church Rose of Sharon GOGIC located at 1799 E. State Fair is also having a back to school rally this Saturday at 10:00 am, giving away free school supplies to kids in the Northeastern District because the church is located in that district. They are also accepting donations. They will be holding a voters registration along with a free health clinic.

**E. Payne** stated she attended the Chief meeting and agree that the board should have been a part of it.

She stated a compliant was filed back in May by four and hasn't received a response as of today.

She stated there needs to be a process in place where the officer isn't in close proximate of the complainant while they are in court.

**Comm. Holley** stated it is very difficult to tell a judge how to run his or her court.

**E. Payne** stated the department should have something in place.

She asked when a person file a false complaint who responsibility is it to address that false complaint.

**AC Godbee** stated it is really two separate issues, if a false felony report is made that a crime. If a person accuses someone of a crime but through the judicial process it is found that the person is not guilty the standard for a prosecution is beyond a reasonable doubt. That is not in and of itself a false claim by itself. There will have to be future review of it to substantiate as a false felony report.

**E. Payne** stated in generality she agrees, however given the fact that she heard the person say something totally different on the witness stand.

**E. Moore** stated to the Board and the Chief that Councilman Kenyetta sends his support and his door is always open.

**R. Scott** thanked the Chief for being a part of their ride and they will seek to get the bike ordinance changed.

He stated he also attended the meeting that the Chief had regarding police shootings and would have like to seen some representation from the Board and the Sergeants and Lieutenants Association.

**Comm. Holley** asked Mr. Scott if he could give a 60 second overview of the meeting.

**R. Scott** stated there were many individuals from community relation groups to discuss the 11 shootings by members of the police department. They asked for their thoughts and suggestion regarding this matter. Many of those issues were related to demeanor and communication which the department was given a list.

**Comm. Holley** asked overall if it was beneficial.

**R. Scott** stated he believes it was important to have the discussion.

**T. Stidham** stated he hasn't received anything on the status of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks regarding the towing rotation and ask the Board to play a role to make sure that the process is fair.

**Comm. Holley** asked Mr. Stidham have they taken this before City Council.



**T. Stidham** stated yes.

**Comm. Holley** asked Mr. Stidham if he wanted to wait until he meets with AC Godbee before this Board interacts.

**T. Stidham** stated they really need the process to be monitored.

**Comm. Holley** stated he wanted to make sure if this Board legal role regarding this matter. He stated there needs to be some resolution to this matter.

**T. Stidham** stated he believes this Board has the legal powers to address this matter and would like to share those legal matters with Exec. Dir. Goss.

**Comm. Holley** asked that the Board attorney draft something that will show that it has a role regarding the towing rotation. He stated that to Mr. Stidham to get a meeting with AC Godbee and he and Comm. Griffin will make themselves available for that meeting.

**T. Stidham** stated they are not here to complain because he knows they are in the right place and the process is fair.

**Comm. Griffin** stated he went on record when all the towers were here and would like for him to review his position on the matter. He stated two weeks from today which will be August 21, 2008 that this Board will have a legal position on their accountability regarding this matter. He stated to Lt. Wilson that the meeting that Comm. Holley spoke of has got to take place.

**T. Stidham** stated thank you, and will like to see this Board exercise its muscles.

**Comm. Holley** stated this Board just wants to make sure they have the legal ground to interact.

**P. Hernandez** stated she owns Casino Towing and will be submitting a proposal for the RFP and she would like to see it go forward.

**Comm. Holley** stated for clarification this Board isn't trying to have the RFP withdrawn.

**P. Hernandez** stated she isn't suggesting that. She stated since the contract expired in 2005 and is on a month-to-month, she asked how does one get added to the towing list.

**Comm. Ramirez** stated for her to give the information to Lt. Wilson for AC Godbee because he is over seeing that process.

**Comm. Holley** stated you are on the RFP list.

**P. Hernandez** stated yes, sir.

**Comm. Holley** stated he has never known this Board to get involved with a RFP and would like something from the Board attorney regarding this matter.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**DANTE' L. GOSS**  
Executive Director  
Board of Police Commissioners

**DLG/rb**